

**BELPER**  
**Rural District Council.**

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**TWENTY-FIFTH**  
**ANNUAL REPORTS**

OF THE

**Medical Officers of Health,**

TO WHICH IS ADDED THE

**REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR,**

From Jan. 1st, 1897, to Dec. 31st, 1897.


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BELPER :

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1897.



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# To the Belper Rural District Council.

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GENTLEMEN,

I have the pleasure of submitting to you my Twenty-fifth Annual Report as your Medical Officer of Health, which describes the general state of my District and deals with the Vital statistics relating thereto.

The Total Mortality and the Death Rate is a little *higher* than in 1896, but it casts no reflection on the general sanitary condition of the District.

We shall see, as we go along, that these facts are fully dealt with and explained.

There are a variety of causes which go to swell the Death Roll of some years, as compared with others—adverse climatic conditions, trade prosperity or the reverse. These exist occasionally, either with or without any prevalence of epidemics of disease.

That there is a very great improvement in the health of the District is beyond all doubt, and, as a consequence, a great deal less pain and suffering of various kinds, which always follows in the train of the former.

Twenty-five years of sanitary work can show a very good record, but the conditions of every-day life are of such a character that it is impossible ever to suppose we shall reach *finality*.

We have yet to contend with a vast amount of ignorance and prejudice, the latter of which becomes most formidable and obstinate as soon as any beneficial changes trespass upon the financial side of the business.

If the whole cost and outlay which all sanitary improvements impose upon somebody or other, could be effected at the expense of the public purse generally, there would spring up a consensus of opinion all around us of its necessity, and a general clamouring for its execution.

We should no longer hear the arguments based upon ancient history, such as that it existed in the days of our forefathers and did nobody any harm, and all seemed to go on very well without this sort of fuss and bother.

In the matter of a purer water supply in rural localities, this feeling is especially strong and rampant. "Fathers, grandfathers, and members of the family have drank the water for generations, were healthy, long lived, and happy enough." All this and more goes on in the face of the strongest proofs of its impurity; and if the water is particularly sparkling and lively, they won't believe that probably this very condition of the water, which they so strongly extol as a proof of its purity, may be the outcome of its contamination, and one proof of its unfitness for human consumption, consequent upon the gases contained in it, the result of the changes, and the various stages of its pollution.

Of course there is another side to those things, one of which is noticeable in a strong desire to improve the conditions existing in the same row of houses. *On other persons' premises* many things exist which ought to be done away with, and there is quite a remarkable increase in the sensitiveness of the olfactory nerves discovering nuisances of a very minute character very much too near their own dwellings.

In very many parts of the District there are distinct signs and evidences of a greater appreciation of cleanliness, and a desire to have things in a proper and orderly way; and it is often particularly annoying to have to make frequent visits in some of these localities, solely on account of one or two stupid, obstinate, ignorant neighbours, who won't do anything they are told, only in your presence; and these people, though they create lots of petty nuisances of a very disagreeable sort, they are hardly sufficient to warrant legal measures; and these very tiresome people delight in being different from other persons, and give constant trouble to the sanitary officers.

There is plenty of evidence that ordinary persons are having more reasonable ideas about contagious diseases. They will, in very many cases, take some precautions of a preventive character when the disease only exists in the same village, and this is a very decided advance.

Even this has its opposite side, because, years ago, the same persons would go into these houses and help the poor people with making some invalid's food, or doing little odd jobs about the cottage, but now they avoid all this, and I have no doubt very many people are neglected much more than they used to be; and this brings in the question of District Nurses, who, under proper regulations and management, are very useful, and brighten up many a sick room by their kindness and their efficiency.

As it is, I constantly hear the old tale, "nobody will come in to do anything for me, and they are frightened to death if I go outside the door for anything, so I do the best I can."

This will be so till every village is provided with a nurse, though our Isolation Hospital will modify it as far as certain infectious diseases are concerned.

The population of my District at the census of 1891 was 10,070. This has increased to 11,230, the calculation being the excess of births over deaths, known as the *Natural Increase*.

The Death Rates of each year since the census of 1891 are as follows :

1891	...	16·28	per thousand.
1892	...	17·26	"
1893	...	13·37	"
1894	...	12·32	"
1895	...	14·63	"
1896	...	11·36	"
1897	...	14·15	"

An epidemic of Diphtheria at Kirk Langley in 1892 swelled the Death Rate of that year.

## Notification of Infectious Diseases.

You adopted the Act of Parliament associated with these diseases in 1890. I give here the numbers notified during each year since that date :

1890	...	...	14.
1891	...	...	23.
1892	...	...	70.
1893	...	...	46.
1894	...	...	23.
1895	...	...	36.
1896	...	...	27.
1897	...	...	19.

Scarlet Fever prevailed at Quarndon as well as the Diphtheria epidemic at Idrigehay in 1892, hence the large number of notifications.

It may be mentioned here that Measles, Whooping Cough, and Diarrhœa are not notifiable.

These 19 cases of Infectious Diseases were distributed as follows :

Allestree	...	...	1
Crich	...	...	2
Darley Abbey	...	...	5
Hazlewood	...	...	2
Idridgehay	...	...	1
Kirk Langley	...	...	1
Lea	...	...	1
Pentrich	...	...	3
Turnditch	...	...	3
Total			19

The diseases were as under :

Small Pox	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	13
Diphtheria	...	...	3
Typhoid Fever	...	...	1
Erysipelas	...	...	1
			19

Of the above cases 9 were *under* five years of age, and 10 *above* that age. The only death occurring from the above class of disease was the Erysipelas case, an infant, only three weeks old, at Kirk Langley.

Fourteen separate houses were infected with these Zymotic diseases, all of which were visited at various times, and printed and verbal instructions given.

**Small Pox.** One case of this disease occurred at Darley Abbey.

This is the first case of Small Pox to be recorded in my District for *Twenty-five years*.

The case was that of a child seven months old. The mother of the child noticed an eruption, and thought it was teething, but still deemed it advisable to let a doctor see it.

She took the child in her arms to Derby (a mile or two distant), and the doctor immediately pronounced the eruption to be Small Pox, and he sent her to the Derby authorities, supposing Darley Abbey was under their sanitary control. Eventually I saw the child and confirmed the doctor's diagnosis of Small Pox.



The other children in the house were sent away, as was the husband also, and I engaged a nurse to assist the mother in her house duties and the nursing. The child was not taken upstairs, but kept in the living room of the house.

The child made a good recovery, and the house and premises were thoroughly disinfected, and no other case occurred in the village.

Of course the very greatest care was taken to prevent any spread of the disease, but the strangest part of the matter was the fact that Derby Poor Law Guardians had (and have now) charge of vaccination arrangements for Darley Abbey, while Belper Rural Council are charged with the duty of preserving the health of its inhabitants.

The child in question had not been vaccinated, and I could not persuade the parents to be re-vaccinated, and of course I had no authority to enforce it.

One of the children who went away to a relative's house had not been vaccinated, because they said she was in delicate health, though she was three years old.

**Scarlet Fever.** 13 cases of this disease were notified, 4 under five years of age and 9 above that age.

All made a good recovery. In three or four instances farmhouses, where milk was retailed in the locality or sent away by rails, had Fever cases, but I gave every possible direction, and frequent inspections convinced me that everything was done to keep the milk supply pure and wholesome, and I had every confidence that it was so.

The parishes where these cases occurred were as follows: Allestree, Crich, Darley Abbey, Holloway, Hazlewood, and Pentrich.

**Diphtheria.** Only 3 cases of this disease were notified during the whole year, and those occurred at a farmhouse at Turnditch, and, singular to relate 3 cases occurred in the same house (not same family) about three years previously. I remember the 1894 cases were traced as far as could be done, to a trip on the Manchester Ship Canal, where they were taken ill, and when got home Diphtheria developed itself.

In this case the cause was distinctly traced to a visit to Derby.

The ages of these three children were thirteen, five, and four years respectively.

The eldest (a girl) had been on a visit to Derby, and in the same street, a few doors off where she stayed, a person was taken to the Royal Infirmary with what was thought to be sore throat, but this woman died of Diphtheria in that Institution.

In addition to the above, there were persons in the house where she stayed who had sore throat.

Twenty cows were milked here and milk sent to London, but the milk never came in the house, as the cooling house, with a plentiful supply of spring water, is situate in the yard ; and this is now the general arrangement of the farms in my District where milk is sold. Nothing particularly insanitary existed on these premises, as the landlord, in 1894, remedied some nuisances which were then pointed out to him.

**Typhoid Fever.** Only one case of this disease occurred during the whole year, and this was a woman, twenty-six years of age, at Darley Abbey, who was removed to Derby Infirmary.

The water supply for this house was from a pump which supplied the row of houses.

I examined this water, and though it was not really pure water, there was nothing to throw any light on the Fever.

The closets are "flush water" closets, and the landlord removes the ashes weekly, so there is no accumulation of refuse to create a nuisance.

Though my District is principally of a rural character, I think the fact of only one case of Typhoid Fever occurring among 19 parishes is worthy of special notice.

**Puerperal Fever.** No case of this kind was notified.

**Erysipelas.** Only one case was notified, and this was that of an infant at Kirk Langley, which ended fatally.

**Measles.** This disease was epidemic at Whatstandwell, Fritchley, and Crich, Turnditch, and partly so at Pentrich.

The Pentrich epidemic was distinctly traced to children coming to the schools from a locality known as Hammersmith, in the Ripley Urban District, so instead of closing Pentrich schools, we stopped any Ripley children from attending school for a month or six weeks. There were a few cases at Pentrich, but as it was the time for the holidays, it helped to get rid of the disease.

At Turnditch the schools were closed for six weeks.

The schools at Crich, Fritchley, and Crich Carr were also closed. The disease hung about the various parts of Crich Parish at various times, from the latter part of 1896 till August, 1897.



As is usual, I asked that the various Sabbath schools should also be closed, and as a matter of courtesy, coupled with a desire to assist the authorities to stamp out the disease, my request has generally been readily complied with among all religious denominations.

I regret to say that this happy state of matters did not exist at Crich on this occasion, as will be explained farther on by the copy of a petition which was presented to the Council, and which was also sent to me as Medical Officer of Health. I thought it of sufficient importance to put on record, so append it here.

**The following is a Copy of the Petition from the Non-conformists of Crich, referring to the Closing of Sunday Schools on account of Epidemic of Measles :**

*“To the Members of the Belper Rural District Council.*

“SIRS,

“The Managers of the four Nonconformist Sunday Schools of Crich have met and considered the request of Dr. Gaylor, Medical Officer of Health, *re* the prevailing epidemic of measles in the village of Crich, and the desirability that all the Sunday Schools of said village should be closed for a time, as a most effectual way to aid in the stamping out of the epidemic.

“In compliance with said request the four Nonconformist Sunday Schools were closed last Sunday, and it is unanimously agreed to keep them closed until such time when they can be again opened without injury to public health.

“But we are aggrieved that the minister of the Church of England, Crich, has taken upon himself (and against the expressed wishes of many of the adherents of his Church, and the Teachers of the Church Sunday Schools) to ignore Dr. Gaylor’s request and advice.

“The Church of England Sunday School was opened last Sunday, the minister giving notice publicly that it would be (and as far as we know will be) opened again next Sunday and so on, in face of the facts that the Nonconformist Schools were, and will be, closed.

“Such a course of action will only prolong the epidemic, the village will have avoidable suffering and inconvenience, with the probability of the epidemic being prolonged, and the Day Schools will have to be closed longer than the present order stipulates.

“Therenpon we protest most firmly against the action of the minister  
 “of the Church of England in keeping open his Sunday School while all  
 “the others are closed, and in opposition to the best medical advice, and  
 “urge upon the Belper Rural District Council to do all and everything  
 “in their power to close the Church Sunday School, and thus make the  
 “request of the Council’s Medical Officer effectual.

“Signed on behalf of the members and families of the four Non-conformist Sunday Schools—

“EUGENE WALTERS, Resident Baptist Minister;

“JOHN ROBERT HYDE, Superintendent of the Primitive Methodist Sunday School;

“W. HARRISON, Superintendent United Free Church Sunday School;

“JAMES WIGHTMAN, Superintendent of Wesleyan Sunday School;

“HERBERT LEAFE, Superintendent of Baptist Sunday School.”

I have, of course, no means of ascertaining the number of cases of Measles which occurred in the above parishes, but six deaths were registered as follows:

Alderwasley	...	...	1
Crich	...	...	4
Pentrich	...	...	1
Total			<hr/> 6 <hr/>

School attendance does not give one much assistance, because the children from an infected house are not allowed to come to school; and added to this many parents, whose children are quite free from the disease, won’t send their children to a school at all when Measles is in the village, because they all think the school is the place to catch it.

**Whooping Cough** prevailed at Alderwasley, Crich, Holloway, and Kirk Langley, and, as will be seen from the tables, caused eight deaths.

**Phthisis** (commonly known as consumption of the lungs) was responsible for ten deaths.

There is every reason to believe this disease is on the decline, partly from an improved system of treatment and management, and partly from a generally prevailing belief that it is an infectious disease, and can be largely prevented by certain precautionary measures, such as abundance of fresh air by means of good ventilation and open windows, burning the

sufferer's sputum instead of disposing of it so as to let it become dried up, and its dust, so to speak, disseminated in the atmosphere for other persons to take in the system by breathing; rooms occupied by the person to be well cleansed and disinfected.

Other diseases, which do not come under the direct notice of sanitarians, will be found in the tables appended.

The **Inquest Cases** were as under :

Male, 45 years.	Killed by train at Markeaton
Male, 63 years.	Killed by railway train at Shottle
Male, 57 years.	Suicide by cutting throat at Crich
Male, 51 years.	Killed by unloading timber at Crich
Male, 6 years.	Accidentally drowned whilst gathering flowers at Darley Abbey
Male, 50 years.	Found dead in water at back of Cotton Mill at Darley Abbey
Male, 22 years.	Crushed by railway trucks at Crich
Male, 67 years.	Syneope at Pentrich
Boy, 7 years.	Failure of heart's action at Shottle

## Zymotic Death Rate for the whole District since 1890.

1890	...	...	·69 per thousand
1891	...	...	·79     "
1892	...	...	1·92     "
1893	...	...	1·01     "
1894	...	...	·76     "
1895	...	...	·46     "
1896	...	...	·18     "
1897	...	...	1·42     "

The years 1892, 1893, and 1897 show epidemics of Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, and Measles.

*The Zymotic Death Rate for England and Wales for 1897 is 2·15 per thousand.*

### Total number of Zymotic Deaths for England and Wales during the year 1897.

Small Pox	...	...	25
Measles	...	...	12,456
Scarlet Fever	...	...	4,492
Diphtheria	...	...	7,461
Whooping Cough	...	...	10,887
Fevers	...	...	4,873
Diarrhoea	...	...	26,857
Total			67,051

The number under the head of Fevers were principally Enteric or Typhoid.

To those persons who pooh-pooh any and everything which is done for Measles and Whooping Cough, and who look upon those diseases as quite natural and not at all dangerous to children, I would ask them to look at the figures, which show that *Twenty-three thousand, three hundred and forty-three children died from these two diseases during the past year 1897.*

### Death Rates from the various Diseases as mentioned below, 1897.

Total Deaths	...	...	159	...	14.15 per 1000
Deaths under 1 year	...	...	40	...	3.56 "
Deaths under 5 years	...	...	60	...	5.34 "
Deaths over 65 years of age	...	...	49	...	4.36 "
Zymotic Deaths	...	...	16	...	1.42 "
Phthisis	...	...	10	...	.89 "
Bronchitis	...	...	23	...	2.04 "
Heart Disease	...	...	18	...	1.62 "
Inquest Cases	...	...	9	...	.8 "
Male Deaths	...	...	89	...	7.92 "
Female Deaths	...	...	70	...	6.23 "

### Infantile Death Rate.

The Infantile Death Rate in my District is 150.37 per thousand. The Infantile Death Rate for England and Wales for 1897 is 156 per thousand.

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## Public Works and Improvements.

Lea and Holloway are again adding to their water supply, and when complete will give about twelve gallons of water per head of the population in place of six and a half gallons as at present. Colonel Hepper, Govt. Inspector, has recently held an inquiry on the spot.

Crich. Engineers are at the present time surveying in order to produce plans for an improved supply for the whole of the parish.

Ashleyhay. A spring of water here has recently been improved and protected.

Mackworth. A Committee has been formed to procure a fresh supply of good water. The present supply from pumps and wells is not good drinking water, and it is hoped to obtain water from a spring situate in the parish boundary.

Pentrich. The supply here has been principally from a public well, The well has been sunk deeper and made wider, to increase the storage of water. The Parish is owned by a Derbyshire nobleman, and a new pump has been put down and the well protected from pollution.

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## General Inspection.

This, of course, is carried out in a systematic and regular manner.

A large number of small nuisances are removed without troubling the Council with details. These consist of manure heaps, swill tub accumulations of vegetable matter, and other dirt in wrong places. Very frequently pigs are not kept very clean, and instructions are given and another visit made to see if the proper thing has been done.

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## Dairies.

Particular attention is given to the condition of these places at farm houses, and many improvements have been made, and, of course, especial attention is given when any infectious disease is about the premises or in the village, amongst whom might be a labourer who milked the animals, or in any other way came in contact with them, but who lived in the infected cottage.



## Isolation Hospital.

This is now very nearly completed, and will very soon be ready to receive patients. I have no idea of what sort of arrangements will be made for the admission of persons suffering from infectious diseases. These matters will be duly considered in committee, with the County Medical Officer to advise.

## School Hygiene.

I have not given any extra attention to this subject of late, except that when a School or Schools have been closed on account of any epidemic, I have ordered thorough cleaning and disinfection of the school closets and drains.

A good many sanitary defects exist in and about most of the Schools, though managers do try and make the best of them as they are, often for want of capital wherewith to effect the necessary improvements.

## The Inspector's Report.

Appended to this Annual Report will be found some details of a considerable amount of work done during the year by the Inspector, partly as the result of his own independent inspections, and partly as the advice given by the Medical Officers of Health.

The deaths took place in the following quarters of the year :

March	...	...	54
June	...	...	45
September	...	...	29
December	...	...	31
Total			159

Death Rate for the year 1897, 14·15 per thousand.

The Death Rate for England and Wales for 1897 is 17·4 per thousand.

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## **Births.**

132 boys and 134 girls were born during the year, making a total of 266.

This gives the *Natural Increase* of the population of my District to be 107 persons.

I estimate the population of my District on December 31st, 1897, to be 11·230.

This is calculated upon the excess of births over deaths since the census of 1891 ; and as the tables will show, this population is spread over 19 parishes, with an area of 32,644 acres.

The Male Birth Rate is 11·75 per thousand.

The Female Birth Rate is 11·93 per thousand.

The total Birth Rate for 1897 is 23·68 per thousand.

The Birth Rate for England and Wales for the same year 1897 is 29·7 per thousand.

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## **Water Supply.**

The general water supply of the parishes not mentioned before is from wells, pumps, springs, open dip wells, situate in various parts of the villages, some in the cottage gardens, and some in the fields where, in most instances, surface water every now and then seriously affects its quality, and in times of drought there is a defective supply.

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## **Public Acts.**

The Belper Rural Council have not yet adopted either the "Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890," nor "The Public Health Act Amendment Act of 1890."

GENTLEMEN,

I think this Report of my District is, on the whole, a very favorable one. It is quite worthy of special notice that only one death occurred from the Notifiable diseases, and that, as before said, was Erysipelas in a child three months old, and which had nothing to do with sanitary matters in any way.

I beg to thank the Chairman and Council generally for the kindness and assistance shewn to me during the past year, and I hope to be always worthy of your renewed confidence as the time for my re-election comes round at the end of each year.

I beg to remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

EDWARD GAYLOR,

*Medical Officer of Health, Belper Rural, Alfreton  
Urban, and Ripley Urban Councils.*

BELPER, *Jan. 30th, 1898.*

**Table 1.****BELPER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.****Classified Causes of Death***From January 1st, 1897, to December 31st, 1897.*

Population on December 31st, 1897 (calculated by Natural Increase since the Census of 1891), **11,230.**

Area in Acres, 32,644. Number of Parishes, 19.

DISEASES.			Under 5 years of age	Above 5 years of age	TOTAL.
Erysipelas	...	...	1		1
Measles	...	...	6		6
Whooping Cough	...	...	8		8
Diarrhœa	...	...		1	1
Rheumatic Fever	...	...		1	1
Cancer	...	...		14	14
Tubercular Diseases	...	...	5	3	8
Phthisis	...	...		10	10
Brain Diseases	...	...	2	1	3
Apoplexy	...	...		7	7
Paralysis	...	...		1	1
Epilepsy	...	...		1	1
Convulsions	...	...	8		8
Spinal Disease	...	...	1	1	2
Heart Disease	...	...		18	18
Bronchitis	...	...	15	8	23
Disease of Stomach	...	...	1		1
„ Bowels	...	...		2	2
„ Liver	...	...		2	2
Urinary Diseases	...	...		4	4
Old Age	...	...		10	10
Debility	...	...	5	4	9
Inquests	...	...	1	8	9
Uncertified	...	...	7	3	10
			60	99	159

Total Death Rate for 1897, 14·15 per thousand.

Mean Death Rate for past 25 years, 14·58 per thousand.

EDWARD GAYLOR,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

**Table 2.**

Birth Rates, Death Rates, and *Mean Death Rates*, with the Population of each Parish, estimated to December 31st, 1897.

PARISHES.	Population December 31, 1897.	Birth Rate for 1897.	Mean Birth Rate for 24 years.	Death Rate for 1897.	Mean Death Rates for 25 years.
Alderwasley ...	381	20·99	25·28	7·87	12·51
Allestree ...	618	19·41	26·92	12·94	15·24
Ashleyhay ...	187	26·73	24·33	10·69	13·81
Crich ...	3394	25·92	32·31	15·31	16·36
Darley Abbey ...	954	24·10	24·67	17·81	16·58
Dethick, Lea, and Holloway ...	1147	27·89	26·64	17·43	16·45
Hazlewood ...	437	13·72	23·13	18·03	11·81
Idridgehay and Alton	323	21·64	22·54	6·19	11·11
Kedleston ...	109	18·34	24·61	Nil	6·95
Kirk Langley ...	968	15·49	26·36	9·29	14·84
Mackworth ...	254	35·43	22·33	7·87	11·54
Markeaton ...	235	29·78	20·39	8·51	9·30
Pentrich ...	331	24·13	31·60	27·12	15·66
Quarndon ...	480	18·75	24·14	6·25	13·79
Ravensdale Park ...	51	39·21	12·04	39·21	6·74
Shottle and Postern	472	21·18	23·11	18·97	10·16
Turnditch ...	301	26·57	27·85	16·61	20·04
Weston Underwood	405	22·2	22·01	7·04	11·76
Windley ...	183	32·78	22·46	16·39	15·19

Total Population of the whole District, 11,230.

Birth Rate of whole District for 1897, 23·68 per thousand.

*Mean Birth Rate for 24 years past*, 29·81 per thousand.

Total Death Rate for 1897, 14·15 per thousand.

*Mean Death Rate for 25 years past*, 15·78 per thousand.

EDWARD GAYLOR,

*Medical Officer of Health.*



**Table 3.**

Births and Deaths in each separate Parish during the year 1897.

Area in Acres, 32,644. Population, 11,230.

PARISHES.	Births.	Deaths.
Alderwasley ... ..	8	3
Allestree ... ..	12	8
Ashleyhay ... ..	5	2
Crich ... ..	88	52
Darley Abbey ... ..	23	17
Dethick, Lea, and Holloway ...	32	20
Hazlewood ... ..	6	8
Idridgehay ... ..	7	2
Kedleston .. ...	2	Nil
Kirk Langley ... ..	15	9
Mackworth ... ..	9	2
Markeaton ... ..	7	2
Pentrich ... ..	8	9
Quarndon ... ..	9	3
Ravensdale Park ... ..	2	2
Shottle and Postern ... ..	10	9
Turnditch ... ..	8	5
Weston Underwood ... ..	9	3
Windley ... ..	6	3
	266	159

Total Birth Rate for 1897, 23.68 per thousand.

Total Death Rate for 1897, 14.15 per thousand.

EDWARD GAYLOR,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

**Table A.**—COUNTY OF DERBY.—Table of DEATHS during the year 1897, in the Rural Sanitary District of Belper, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

Area in Acres, 32,644. Population, 1891, 10,070. Estimated 1897, 11,230.

Deaths from all causes at subjoined Ages.										Mortality from subjoined Causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five years of age.																								
Names of Parishes adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate Localities. (Columns for Population, Births, and Cases of Infectious Disease are in Table B.)	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	Aged under 5 or over 5	Mortality from subjoined Causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five years of age.																								
										Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membr. Croup.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough	Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	Rheumatic Fever.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Injuries.	All other Diseases.	TOTAL.				
ALDERWASLEY.....		3	3						Under 5 5 upw'ds																							1		3
ALLESTREE .....		8	2				1	5	Under 5 5 upw'ds																							1	2	6
ASHLEYHAY .....		2						2	Under 5 5 upw'ds																									2
CRICH .....		52	12	13	3	4	11	9	Under 5 5 upw'ds							4	5										6						11	25
DARLEY ABBEY ....		17	3	1	1		6	6	Under 5 5 upw'ds									1														3	7	13
DETHICK, LEA, AND HOLLOWAY		20	3	4			6	7	Under 5 5 upw'ds																							4	7	13
HAZLEWOOD .....		8	1		1	1	2	3	Under 5 5 upw'ds																							1	1	7
IDRIDGEHAY .....		2					1	1	Under 5 5 upw'ds																							1	2	
KEDLESTON .....									Under 5 5 upw'ds																									
KIRK LANGLEY ....		9	4				3	2	Under 5 5 upw'ds																							1	4	5
Totals..	121	28	18	5	5	30	35		Under 5 5 upw'ds							1	5	8													14	9	22	46
																															15	3	42	75

CONTINUATION OF TABLE A.

[illegible]

**Table B.**—COUNTY OF DERBY.—Table of POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year 1897, in the Rural Sanitary District of Belper, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

Names of Parishes adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate Localities.	Population of all Ages.			Aged under 5 or over 5	New cases of Sickness in each locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.													
	Census 1891.	Estimated to middle of 1897.	Regis-tered Births.		1	2	3	4	FEVERS.					9	10	11	12	13
									Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membr. Group.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.					
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membr. Group.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Peurperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.			
ALDERWASLEY.....	337	378	8	Under 5 5 upw'ds														
ALLESTREE .....	571	620	12	Under 5 5 upw'ds	1													
ASHLEYHAY .....	173	182	5	Under 5 5 upw'ds														
CRICH .....	3070	3360	88	Under 5 5 upw'ds														
DARLEY ABBEY ....	921	958	23	Under 5 5 upw'ds	1	2				1								
DETHICK, LEA, AND HOLLOWAY	1058	1139	32	Under 5 5 upw'ds		1												
HAZELWOOD .....	398	435	6	Under 5 5 upw'ds		2												
IDRIDGEHAY .....	309	320	7	Under 5 5 upw'ds		1												
KEDLES'TON .....	102	109	2	Under 5 5 upw'ds														
KIRK LANGLEY.....	613	668	15	Under 5 5 upw'ds											1			
Totals ..	7552	8169	307	Under 5 5 upw'ds	1	4				1					1			

CONTINUATION OF TABLE B.

Names of Parishes adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate Localities.	Population of all Ages.			Regis-tered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5	New cases of Sickness in each locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.													
	Census 1891.	Esti-mated to middle of 1897.				1	2	3	4	5	FEVERS.					10	11	12	13
		(b)	(c)								(d)	(e)	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.				
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membr. Group.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Peurperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.				
Brought over....	7552	8169	198	Under 5 5 upw'ds	1	4													
MACKWORTH .....	237	254	9	Under 5 5 upw'ds		6													
MARKEATON .....	217	230	7	Under 5 5 upw'ds															
PENTRICH .....	303	333	8	Under 5 5 upw'ds															
QUARNDON .....	451	470	9	Under 5 5 upw'ds		3													
RAVENSDALE PARK	51	57	2	Under 5 5 upw'ds															
SHOTTLE.....	432	470	10	Under 5 5 upw'ds															
TURNDITCH .....	283	300	8	Under 5 5 upw'ds			2												
WESTON UNDER- WOOD .....	375	400	9	Under 5 5 upw'ds			1												
WINDLEY .....	169	183	6	Under 5 5 upw'ds															
Totals...	10070	10860	266	Under 5 5 upw'ds	1	4	2								1				





# Belper Rural District Council.

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## **Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health of the "B" District for the year ending Dec. 31st, 1897.**

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J. ALLEN, Medical Officer of Health.

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*To the Belper Rural District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

Another year having passed away, it becomes my duty to present for your consideration my Annual Report, containing a resumé of the work done, and the Vital Statistics of the District over which I exercise jurisdiction as a Medical Officer of Health.

This Report will be the twenty-fifth I have had the honour of submitting since my first appointment under the old Rural Sanitary Authority, and the fourth to you as a Rural District Council.

A retrospect of a quarter of a century gives much food for thought to me as a sanitarian, and although my District, since its first formation, has been curtailed and re-arranged, owing to different townships having been invested with Urban powers, still there is a sufficient area of the old District remaining to enable me to form some idea as to the improvement, or not, in the sanitary condition of the places under my control.

When I look back upon these small centres of population, I can see much left undone which I have suggested in different Reports, while at the same time I can see many important improvements effected, and I shall hope in this Report to draw your attention to both these matters.

In 1897, if we take Measles into our calculation, there has been an increase of the deaths in the Zymotic classes compared with last year. If, however, we exclude these deaths from a disease which is not scheduled for notification, we have a slight decrease.

The number of cases of Zymotic disease notified during the year is less than in the previous year, and what is more satisfactory the mortality has been less.

Against this we shall have to place an excess in the deaths from other causes of 15 compared with 1896. This last year (1896) was, however, a very favourable one, as in that period a decrease of no less than 40 deaths was registered compared with 1895. The death rate for this year will not therefore be quite so low.

The Infantile mortality is, I am sorry to say, still in excess, amounting to considerably over a third of the whole number of deaths. Deducting the deaths from Measles and other Zymotic diseases, and diseases of the Respiratory organs, considerably more than half of the deaths are registered in the class of diseases not named. These deaths are stated to have been caused by convulsions, inanition, etc., etc., all of which point more or less to ignorance in the nurture and feeding of infants.

I am glad to find that in some places the County Council are fostering lectures delivered by the Parish Nurses to the poorer mothers of these helpless children. These lectures are not, however, general, but only confined to the larger centres of population. Ambulance lectures are now delivered in small places, and I have thought that the County Council might supplement these by giving encouragement to the lecturers to include infantile feeding and management in their programme. The village doctors who undertake the one, might, for a consideration, if not on higher grounds, undertake the other.

I am glad to hear that the Isolation Hospital is near completion at last!! The architect informed me a short time since that it would be ready for occupation in the coming Spring. This will be a great boon, and it will be my earnest endeavour to educate the people as to its advantages. I have no doubt that at first some difficulties will occur and objections made to sending the cases from home, but I have a good hope that a little gentle persuasion will have the desired effect. When this prejudice is finally overcome we shall have a powerful aid in stamping out those Zymotic diseases spread, more or less, by personal contact.

With one exception, and that was during my annual holiday, I have attended all the meetings of the Council, and presented a Report on my work during the month.

With these prefatory remarks I will now consider the Vital Statistics of my District as a whole.

The total number of deaths registered in 1897 is 177, and they were recorded in the months as follows :

January	...	...	18
February	...	...	26
March	...	...	14
April	...	...	14
May	...	...	17
June	...	...	13
July	...	...	6
August	...	...	12
September	...	...	10
October	...	...	10
November	...	...	13
December	...	...	24
Total			<u>177</u>

The ages at which death took place are classified into the following periods :

1st period	under one year.
2nd	„ between 1 and 5 years.
3rd	„ „ 5 and 15 years.
4th	„ „ 15 and 25 years.
5th	„ „ 25 and 65 years.
6th	„ those who lived over 65 years.

Of these 177 deaths :

56	occurred in 1st period.
19	„ 2nd „
8	„ 3rd „
8	„ 4th „
49	„ 5th „
37	„ 6th „

Of the whole number of deaths, 20 were registered in the Zymotic classes.

Dividing these Zymotic deaths into two classes, *viz.*, those spread more or less by personal contact, and those spread and fostered more or less by insanitary local conditions, 15 were recorded in the first class, *viz.*, Measles 8, Scarlet Fever 3, Diphtheria 2, Membranous Croup 1, Whooping Cough 1. The 5 deaths in the second class were from Diarrhœa 4, Rheumatic Fever 1.

At this stage I will give a short history of the Zymotic diseases in the District for the year 1897.

**Small Pox.** The District has been, so far as my knowledge extends, quite free from this disease. I would, however, remind the Council that Vaccination, its only *real* antidote, is still terribly neglected, and in my own neighbourhood there are very many children still unprotected. The fuel is ready, and it only wants the spark to ensure a conflagration. I can only hope that before another year elapses I shall be able to bear testimony, as I have done in former years, to the good work having been accomplished. May such a visitation as that of Gloucester be *not* the call for active measures.

**Measles.** This disease is not scheduled, and my knowledge of its existence in the District has been obtained from schoolmasters and managers of schools. In the beginning of the year Mapperley was visited by an epidemic, which, commencing at the end of 1896, extended into the first month of 1897. The schools were closed and 5 deaths were registered. At Duffield there was an outbreak in February, and I considered it necessary to close the schools. No death was registered.

**Scarlet Fever.** This disease has been prevalent in parts of the District more or less during the whole of the year. I have received notification of 47 cases. They were scattered about in Denby, Duffield, Holbrook, Horsley-Woodhouse, Kilburne, Smalley, and South Wingfield. The disease was mild in type, and only 3 deaths were registered.

**Diphtheria.** This disease has not prevailed to the extent it did in 1896, and only 3 cases have been notified, *viz.*, 1 in Duffield which proved fatal, and 2 in Mapperley, one of which died.

**Membranous Croup.** 2 cases have come to my knowledge, one at Duffield which terminated fatally, and the other at South Wingfield, where the doctor notified it as having been caught from a cat.

**Whooping Cough.** This disease is not scheduled. One death was registered at Duffield.

**Typhoid Fever.** 3 cases were notified, *viz.*, one at Smalley and two at South Wingfield. Neither of them proved fatal.



**Diarrhœa.** 4 deaths have been registered from this disease, *viz.*, two at Denby, one at Holbrook, and one at Mapperley. The disease was in a sporadic form, and has not assumed an epidemic character in the District for some years.

**Erysipelas.** 4 cases have been notified, but as I have stated in previous Reports, this disease, for all practical purposes, may be well left out of the schedule.

**Rheumatic Fever.** One fatal case was registered at Holbrook.

**Puerperal Fever.** No case has been notified during the year.

**Pyæmia.** One fatal case occurred in Denby, the result of a pit accident. At the Coroner's inquest the verdict was given as an accident, and therefore it has been classified under that head.

The Zymotic death rate is 1·5 per thousand.

The causes of the remaining deaths were :

Phthisis	...	11
Respiratory Diseases	...	28
Heart Diseases	...	15
Violent Deaths	...	4
Diseases not classified	...	99

The Death Rate of the District for the year is 13·03 per thousand, and the Mean Rate is 14·6 per thousand.

Coming to the births there has been a decrease of 11 compared with 1896.

207 males and 184 females were born in 1897—a total of 391. This would give a Birth Rate of 31 per thousand, and I estimate the population to have increased at the end of 1897 to 12,603.

I will now, after these general remarks, consider these Vital Statistics in connection with each separate Parish or Township in my District.

## Denby.

Population at census of 1891, 1533.

Estimated population end of 1896, 1752.

Births in 1897—Males 34, Females 23 ; total 57.

Birth Rate for year, 32·7 per thousand.

Deaths at all ages, 25. Of these—

12	died in 1st period.
2	„ 2nd „
1	„ 3rd „
7	„ 5th „
3	lived over 65 years.

Of these deaths 3 were registered from Zymotic diseases, *viz.*, Scarlet Fever 1, Diarrhœa 2.

The cause of the remaining deaths were :

Respiratory diseases	...	3
Heart diseases...	...	4
Violent death...	...	1
Diseases not classified	...	14

The violent death was the result of an accident in a coal pit.

The Infantile mortality is in excess, more than half of the deaths being those of children under 5 years of age.

The Death Rate for the year is 14 per thousand.

The Mean Death Rate is 13·4.

7 cases of Zymotic disease were notified during the year, *viz.*, Scarlet Fever 5, Erysipelas 2. There was a reported case of Typhoid Fever which was not notified. On investigation I found that the patient had been removed to the Derby Infirmary suffering from some other illness, and that Typhoid symptoms had been developed while in that Institution.

I have visited this Parish several times during the year, and made enquiries into the cases of Zymotic diseases mentioned above. They were reported at the regular monthly meeting of the Council.

In July I made another inspection of the drainage of the Parish. It is still in an unsatisfactory state, and the Council are alive to the fact but do not like to undertake comprehensive drainage works until there is a better supply of water for flushing purposes. The Council seem to think there would be danger of a Typhoid outbreak if these works were carried out without the water supply. I have reminded the Council that Typhoid Fever is not so much a sewer disease, and that, with rare exceptions, it is essentially a water-borne disease, and that in great epidemics of this disease the cause has been traced to a polluted water supply. Sporadic cases may doubtless occur from air pollution, but these are exceptional.

I hope that these objections to a sewage scheme will soon now be removed, when the proposed water supply is obtained, and that the pollution of the brook at the localities known as "The Bottles" and "Smithy Houses" will be prevented.

## Duffield.

This, for this year, contains the hamlet of Makeney and part of the township of Milford. In the next Report the statistics of these two places will be considered separately.

Population at census of 1891, 2704.

Estimated population end of 1896, 2939.

Births in 1897—Males 49, Females 29; total 78.

Birth Rate for the year, 26·5 per thousand.

Deaths at all ages 46. Of these—

8 died in 1st period.			
5	„	2nd	„
4	„	3rd	„
3	„	4th	„
18	„	5th	„
8 lived over 65 years.			

In the Zymotic classes 3 deaths were registered, *viz.*, Diphtheria 1, Croup 1, Whooping Cough 1.

The causes of the remaining 43 deaths were :

Phthisis	...	...	5
Respiratory diseases	...	...	4
Heart diseases	...	...	4
Violent death	...	...	1
Diseases not classified	...	...	29

The violent death was that of a suicide by drowning.

The Death Rate for the year is 15·4 per thousand.

The Mean Death Rate is 15·1 per thousand.

In 1896 I enquired into 31 cases of Zymotic disease. In the year 1897 only 3 cases were notified, *viz.*, Scarlet Fever 2, Diphtheria 1. I received no notification of the case of croup during life.

These cases were duly investigated and reported on at your monthly meetings. The last case of Scarlet Fever was an importation from Derby.

I have visited this place several times during the year, and there was a smart epidemic of Measles at its commencement. The information came from one of the schoolmasters, who stated that out of a possible attendance of 114 only 37 children put in an appearance. The School Attendance Officer's attention was called to this, and after enquiry he found that the greater number of the children were kept at home on account of Measles. Under these circumstances I had no hesitation in closing the schools for one month, and at the end of that time I could hear of no fresh cases.

In April I enquired into a case of Diphtheria. I got a note from the medical attendant saying that the patient was suffering from a Diphtheritic sore throat. The next day I received the information that the child was dead. There was no bacteriological examination of the membrane.

In July I received complaints of overcrowding at the Midland Railway Station in the Booking office. I visited the premises, and made measurements of the cubic space, and took the numbers of the persons using the room at one time. I reported the matter to the Council, giving my opinion that the cubic space of this small room was not sufficient, and a resolution was passed that the attention of the General Manager of the Railway should be called to the defect. At the commencement of this year I have received fresh complaints of the same thing, so that it would appear that no steps have been taken to remedy the deficiency.

At the same meeting of the Council I reported on the insanitary condition of a farm yard and buildings situate in the very centre of the township. Notice was issued to abate the nuisance.

Duffield has been much improved since the passing of the Public Health Act in 1873. There is now a first-class water supply, but the new plans for a better system of sewage seem to be for the present in abeyance.

Nothing beyond what I have mentioned has occurred during the year needing any special mention in this Report.

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## **Holbrook.**

Population at census of 1891, 1094.

Estimated population end of 1896, 1192.

Births in 1897—Males 12, Females 18 ; total 30.

Birth Rate, 25 per thousand.

Estimated population end of 1897, 1202.



Deaths at all ages, 20. Of these :

5 died in 1st period.  
 1 „ 3rd „  
 2 „ 4th „  
 4 „ 5th „  
 8 lived over 65 years.

Two deaths were registered in the Zymotic classes, *viz.*, Diarrhoea 1, Rheumatic Fever 1.

The causes of the remaining deaths were :

Phthisis	...	...	2
Respiratory diseases	...	...	4
Heart diseases	...	...	2
Diseases not classified	...	...	10

The Death Rate for the year is 16·3 per thousand.

The Mean Death Rate is 14·9 per thousand.

13 cases of Zymotic disease were notified during the year, *viz.*, Scarlet Fever 12, Erysipelas 1.

I have visited this village on several occasions during the year, chiefly for the purpose of enquiry into cases of Scarlet Fever. These cases cropped up at intervals, and were scattered all over the village, not confined to one locality or in the neighbourhood of any particular school. It was mild in type, and isolation was carried out under my instructions as far as this could be done in small houses. Several cases were doubtless caused by the want of this precaution, for I found children who were in a contagious state mixing with other members of the family, without any thought on the part of the mother as to the risk attending this proceeding.

For many years, as the Medical Officer of Health, I have advised a system of main drainage for this village (the water supply has been already much improved). I am pleased, therefore, to be able to state that this important question of main drainage has been recognized by the Council. At a meeting held in August last a resolution was passed that the Surveyor make a plan of the existing sewers and report to a future meeting. That work has been in progress, and I hope the result will be the removal of the present effete drains and the substitution of those more in accordance with modern sanitation. This village only needs this necessary work to place it in a good position as regards sanitary arrangements. It is admirably situated on the slope of the hill, and would almost drain itself.



## Horsley.

Population at census of 1891, 368.

Estimated population at end of 1896, 394.

Birth in year—Males 6, Females 3 ; total 9.

Birth Rate, 22·8 per thousand.

Estimated population at end of 1897, 396.

Deaths at all ages, 7. Of these—

1 died in 3rd period.

2 „ 5th „

4 lived over 65 years.

No death was registered from Zymotic disease, the causes being :

Heart disease	...	...	2
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Diseases not classified	...	...	5
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The Death Rate for the year is 17·4 per thousand.

The Mean Death Rate is 14·7 per thousand.

No case of Zymotic disease was notified during the year.

I have visited this village several times, but found nothing of sufficient importance to bring under the notice of the Council.

The water supply is sometimes scarce, but when the new works are completed this will be remedied.

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## Horsley-Woodhouse.

Population at census of 1891, 934.

Estimated population at end of 1896, 1040.

Births in the year—Males 24, Females 22 ; total 46.

Birth Rate, 44·2 per thousand.

Estimated population at end of 1897, 1074.

Deaths at all ages 12. Of these—

3 died in 1st period.

1 „ 2nd „

1 „ 4th „

3 „ 5th „

4 lived over 65 years.

No death was registered from Zymotic disease. The causes were :

Phthisis	...	...	1
Respiratory diseases	...	...	3
Diseases not classified	...	...	8

The Death Rate for the year is 11·1 per thousand.

The Mean Rate is 17. This Mean Rate was raised above its normal level by the high Death Rate of 1895, which reached 25·7 per thousand.

5 cases of Zymotic diseases were notified during the year, *viz.*, Scarlet Fever 4, Erysipelas 1.

I visited the Township and enquired into these cases as they occurred, and so far as the limited circumstances would allow, ordered isolation of the patients. It was satisfactory to find that the Scarlet Fever did not spread to any extent, and there was no fatal case.

The main drainage of this village has been improved, and with the coming new water supply I hope to see the death rate still further reduced.

During my visits in the past year I was pleased to note a decided improvement in the cleanliness of the surroundings of the cottages, and to find that more attention was being given to the removal of the refuse which used to accumulate, and become not only offensive, but dangerous to the health of the community.

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## Kilbourne.

Population at census of 1891, 1427.

Estimated population at end of 1896, 1613.

Births in the year—Males 20, Females 27 ; total 47.

Birth Rate, 29·1 per thousand.

Estimated population at end of 1897, 1640.

Deaths at all ages 20. Of these—

7	died in 1st period.
4	„ 2nd „
1	„ 3rd „
3	„ 5th „
5	lived over 65 years.

I would note that the Infantile mortality is very much in excess. More than half of the whole number were those of children under 5 years. Of these 11 deaths, one was the result of a scald, and seven were registered among the diseases not classified, which I fear points to bad nursing and improper feeding.

Three of the deaths were from Zymotic disease, *viz.*, Measles 1, Scarlet Fever 2.

The causes of the remaining deaths were :

Phthisis	...	...	1
Heart disease	...	...	1
Violent death	...	...	1
Diseases not classified	...	...	14

The Death Rate for the year is 12.2 per thousand.

The Mean Death Rate is 13.11.

21 cases of Zymotic disease were notified. The first two certificates were received in January, which were sporadic cases of Scarlet Fever. I could get no reliable information as to how the disease was imported. One case was in the village itself and the other at Lower Kilburne, some distance away. The village was free from any Zymotic disease until August, when a fresh outbreak of Scarlet Fever occurred, and from that time until the end of the year I paid many visits and enquired into 18 fresh cases. The disease was mild in type, and the cases at one time were not sufficiently numerous to warrant my closing the schools.

The sanitary condition of this village cannot be considered satisfactory while the water courses are polluted by its sewage. Complaints were made to the Council by a farmer of the danger to his cattle through drinking this polluted water, and a resolution was passed by the Council calling upon the owners of property to provide cesspools. This has been tried before and has proved a failure. The only way out of the difficulty is the providing of a comprehensive scheme of main drainage.

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## Mapperley.

Population at census of 1891, 531.

Estimated population at end of 1896, 595.

Births in the year—Males 5, Females 9 ; total 14.

Birth Rate, 25.5 per thousand.

Estimated population at end of 1897, 598.

Deaths at all ages, 11. Of these—

7 died in 1st period.

2 „ 2nd „

1 „ 4th „

1 „ 5th „

7 of these deaths were from Zymotic diseases, *viz.*, Measles 5  
Diphtheria 1, Diarrhœa 1.

The causes of the other deaths were :

Phthisis ... 1

Diseases not classified ... 3

The Death Rate for this year has been swollen by the large percentage of infantile deaths, nearly the whole of them being under 5 years of age. The rate is 18.3 per thousand. The Mean Rate is 12.7.

In my last Report I mentioned an outbreak of Measles, which commencing at the end of that year, was carried into the first month of this. I had the schools closed until after the Christmas holidays, but when I visited the village in January, I found this disease still very prevalent, and therefore kept the schools closed until the end of the third week in the new year. After this the epidemic gradually exhausted itself.

At the end of May a case of Diphtheria was notified. On visiting the house I found that the disease had been contracted while the child was on a visit in another part of the County near the town of Alfreton. Another child afterwards was infected with the same disease, and one of the cases proved fatal. Nothing of an insanitary nature was found about the premises.

Nothing needing any special notice has occurred in this village during the year, beyond the outbreak of Measles and the two cases of Diphtheria.

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## Morley.

Population at census of 1891, 298.

Estimated population end of 1896, 315.

Births in year—Males 5, Females 5 ; total 10.

Birth Rate, 31.7 per thousand.

Estimated population at the end of 1897, 321.

Deaths at all ages, 4. Of these—

1 died in 1st period.

1 „ 4th „

2 „ 5th „

No death was registered from Zymotic disease. The causes were :

Respiratory disease ... 1

Heart disease ... 1

Diseases not classified ... 2

The Death Rate for the year is 12·4 per thousand.

The Mean Death Rate is 16·4 per thousand.

No case of Zymotic disease has been notified, and I have not found it necessary to visit the village this year.

## Smalley.

Population at census of 1891, 924.

Estimated population at end of 1896, 1066.

Births in the year—Males 19, Females 18 ; total 37.

Birth Rate, 34·7 per thousand.

Estimated population at the end of 1897, 1087.

Deaths at all ages, 16. Of these—

7 died in 1st period.

3 „ 2nd „

3 „ 5th „

3 lived over 65 years.

One death was registered from Measles. The causes of the remaining deaths were :

Respiratory diseases ... 5

Violent death ... 1

Diseases not classified ... 9

The violent death was that of an infant accidentally suffocated at birth.

There is a large percentage of infantile deaths ; nearly two-thirds of the whole number died during the first 5 years of life. I am afraid that most of these deaths are to be attributed to ignorance on the part of those



who have to rear the children, as there is nothing in the sanitary surroundings of this open and well ventilated village to cause any special danger to infantile life.

The Death Rate for the year is 14·7 per thousand.

The Mean Death Rate is 14·5 per thousand.

I have paid several visits to this place during the year. In August I reported a case of Typhoid Fever, which occurred in a house close to the church. The tenant, fearing that the water from his own pump was polluted owing to its proximity to the churchyard, had obtained his supply from a neighbour's well on the opposite side of the road. I had both of these waters analysed, and both were found to be impure and unfit for domestic or drinking purposes. This was unfortunate, as the water supply at Smalley is by no means too plentiful in dry summers.

In the following month I reported two cases of Scarlet Fever. I found the cause of the first case was to be traced to a neighbouring village, and the second case was infected by the first.

Nothing more needing any special mention has occurred in this village during the year.

## South Wingfield.

Population at census of 1891, 1319.

Estimated population at end of 1896, 1491.

Births in the year—Males 33, Females 30 ; total 63.

Birth Rate, 42·3 per thousand.

Estimated population at end of 1897, 1530.

Deaths at all ages, 16. Of these—

6	died in 1st period.
2	„ 2nd „
6	„ 5th „
2	lived over 65 years.

In the Zymotic classes one death was registered from Measles.

The causes of the remaining 15 deaths were :

Phthisis	...	...	1
Respiratory diseases	...	...	8
Heart disease	...	...	1
Diseases not classified	...	...	5

The Infantile mortality is in excess, half of the whole number of deaths being those of children under 5 years.

The Death Rate for the year is 10·4 per thousand.

The Mean Death Rate is 16·2 per thousand.

4 cases of Zymotic disease were notified, *viz.*, Membranous Croup 1, Scarlet Fever 1, Typhoid Fever, 2.

The case of Membranous Croup was notified in February, and the cause was given by the medical man in attendance as infection from a cat.

In May I enquired into the two cases of Typhoid Fever. They both occurred in the same house, in the locality known as Monkey Park, where so many cases have been already reported. The cause was the drinking water, which was analysed and found to be polluted, and the well was ordered to be closed.

The case of Scarlet Fever was a sporadic one, and no other case was notified.

The water supply of this village has occupied the attention of the Council at several of its sittings. The plan of getting a supply from Morewood Moor has been abandoned, and the Council have now adopted a scheme for getting a supply from the Swanwick Sough, which was contemplated some time since. The quantity has been gauged and found to flow at the rate of 15000 gallons per day, and as the springs were low when this was done in November, the amount was considered to be satisfactory.

The health of this village during the past year has been fairly good. I hope this water question will, after a long period of trouble and expense, receive a satisfactory solution.

The old pond in the centre of the village is still in existence, and during the last summer was in its chronic state of pollution, and a possible source of danger to the public health.

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This, Gentlemen, ends what I have to say about the statistics and work of my District for the year. In my monthly Reports you have had much of the matter before you, but it is sometimes useful to reproduce these things in a condensed form.

Before closing I will just call your attention to what has been suggested and recommended in previous Reports, with remarks on the present position of—

(I.) **The Infectious Hospital.** This has now for so many years occupied the first place, but it will do so no longer. I am pleased to say that the building is near completion, and will soon be ready for the reception of patients.

(II.) **Drainage.** There has not much been done in this respect during the year. Denby is still without a proper and effective system. Holbrook has advanced a step in the right direction, and plans are being prepared. Let me, however, remind the Council *that plans have been prepared before, and have been consigned to the dust and oblivion of a pigeon hole.* Let us hope that these new plans will not suffer the same fate.

Horsley Woodhouse has been improved in the matter.

Kilbourne remains in *statu quo*, still unrepentant so far as the pollution of the watercourse is concerned. In Duffield no further step has been taken, but here the matter is not so urgent.

(III.) **Water Supply.** The scheme I mentioned in my last Report affecting Smalley, Horsley Woodhouse, Horsley, Kilbourne, and Denby is still being proceeded with, but it seems to me that there is too much delay, not caused by any action of the Council.

I have not had occasion to take any action in any case of bad meat or fish exposed for sale.

So far as my knowledge extends no offensive trade is carried on in my District.

May I, in conclusion, express my thanks to the Council for their kind assistance in the carrying out the sanitary work of the District. This is sometimes attended with difficulties, but it becomes a pleasure to overcome them, when you know that your endeavours are appreciated.

May our cordial relations ever continue.

I append the usual tables, and remain,

Your obedient Servant,

J. ALLEN,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

RIPLEY, DERBY, *March 2nd, 1898.*

**Table 1.**

**District "B" of the Belper Rural District Council,**  
(Including the Parish of South Wingfield.)

Area in acres	...	...	15,487.
Population at Census of 1891	...	...	11,132.
Estimated population at end of 1897	...	...	12,603.

### Return of Causes of Death in year 1897.

DISEASE.				Under 5 years.	Above 5 years.
Measles	...	...	...	8	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	2	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	1	1
Membranous Croup	...	...	...	1	0
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	1	0
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	4	0
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	0	1
Phthisis	...	...	...	0	11
Respiratory diseases	...	...	...	12	16
Heart diseases	...	...	...	0	15
Violent deaths	...	...	...	2	2
Other diseases	...	...	...	44	55
TOTALS				75	102

Death Rate for the year, 13.03 per thousand.

Mean Death Rate, 14.6.

The Death Rate for England and Wales, with an estimated population of over 31,000,000 is 17.4 per thousand, and is still decreasing.

**Table 2.****Births in District in 1897.**

Males	...	...	...	...	207
Females	...	...	...	...	184
Total					391

Birth Rate for 1897 ... 31 per thousand.

The Birth Rate for England and Wales on the estimated population in Table I. is 29·7 per thousand.

**Table 3.**

Birth Rate, Death Rate, Mean Death Rate, and Estimated Population of each separate Parish or Township forming the District at the end of 1897.

PLACE.		Estimated Population	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Mean Death Rate
Denby	...	1784	32·7	14	13·4
Duffield, including and Milford	Makeney }	2971	26·5	15·4	15·1
Holbrook	...	1202	25	16·3	14·9
Horsley	...	396	22·8	17·4	14·7
Horsley-Woodhouse	...	1074	44·2	11·1	17
Kilbourne	...	1640	29·1	12·2	13·11
Mapperley	...	598	23·5	18·3	12·7
Morley	...	321	31·7	12·4	16·4
Smalley	...	1087	34·7	14·7	14·5
South Wingfield	...	1530	42·3	10·4	16·2





*To the Chairman and Members of the Belper Rural  
District Council.*

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GENTLEMEN,

In presenting to you my Twenty-fifth Annual Report for the year ending 31st of December, 1897.

I beg to inform you that I have during the year made 273 inspections of various matters connected with my duties. Also superintended the erection of Dwelling Houses, &c., in accordance with the Bye-Laws now in force in several Parishes in the Union.

I have inspected 1273 Dwelling-houses and premises, and reported 480 nuisances.

205 official and 275 formal notices have been served on owners, agents, and occupiers of premises, causing 464 nuisances to be abated.

### **Buildings.**

I have superintended the erection of 32 Dwelling-houses, 26 Kitchens, 31 Coal-houses, 9 Bath Rooms, 6 Dairies, 8 Store Sheds, 8 Cart Sheds, 7 Stables, 6 Coach-houses, 4 Cow-houses, 10 Pigcotes, 17 W.C.s, 19 Dry Earth Closets with moveable pans, 55 Dry Earth Privies, 56 Receptacles, 13 Ashpits, 22 Sewerage Cesspools, and 30 Ventilation Shafts.

### **Drains.**

30 Drains of Dwelling-houses and premises have been connected with main sewers, 22 with cesspools, and one irrigation.

### **Structural Alterations.**

I have superintended in the following: structural alterations to 5 Dwelling-houses, 1 defective W.C., 2 Dry Earth Closets with moveable pans, 40 Common Privies, 42 Privy Cesspools, 4 Ashpits, 82 Sink Drains, and 122 Yard Drains.

1 Dirty Dwelling-house has come under my notice and reported, with 88 Foul Deposits and 2 Pigcotes kept so as to be a nuisance and injurious to health.

## **Dairies' and Cowsheds' Acts.**

Under the Dairies', Cowsheds', and Disease Animals' Acts I have made 25 inspections, and found all satisfactory.

## **Canal Boats Act.**

I have at different times made 8 inspections of Canal Boats, and 1 for Registration.

## **Infectious Diseases Act.**

I have inquired into 61 cases, *viz.*, Smallpox 1, Typhoid Fever 6, Scarlet Fever 50, Diphtheria 4; total 61.

## **Water.**

I have during the year served 4 Official Notices on Owners and Agents of property, to provide their Tenants with a wholesome supply of water, the cleaning out of their wells, and the better protection of same.

7 private Wells have been sunk, and 4 Pumps put down, also 1 Public Pump.

I have attended during the year to the Public Pumps situated in the Parishes of Holbrook, Kilburn, and South Wingfield.

## **Analysis of Water.**

I have submitted to the County Analyst 8 Samples, 1 only reported as of good quality, the others pronounced as unfit for use.

I have attended 6 Special Committee Meetings.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN CLEXTON,

Inspector of Buildings, Nuisances, &c.

*February, 1898.*